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GOVERNING COUNCIL
Tenth session
Nairobi, 20 May - 2 June 1982
Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION

Note by the Executive Director

Item 1

Opening of the session

1. The tenth session of the Governing Council will be opened by the President of the Council at its ninth session or, in his absence, by one of the other members of the Bureau of the Council at its ninth session.

Item 2

Organizational matters

(a) Election of officers

2. Rule 18 of the rules of procedure provides for the election by the Council, at the commencement of the first meeting of its regular session, of a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur, who shall constitute the Bureau of the Governing Council. Rule 18 further provides that, in electing its officers, the Governing Council shall have due regard to the principle of equitable geographical representation and that the offices of President and Rapporteur shall be subject to rotation among the five groups of States referred to in section 1, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972. 1/

1/ For information on the election of officers at previous sessions, see annex II to the present document

3. Should the Governing Council decide to establish sessional committees, as is suggested in the annotation to item 2 (b) (see below), each committee shall elect its own officers, except the chairman, in accordance with rule 61 of the rules of procedure. In the past, the Council has established two sessional committees at each session except the first, designating, in each case, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Council as Chairman of Sessional Committee I and another as Chairman of Sessional Committee II.

(b) Agenda and organization of the work of the session

4. The provisional agenda for the tenth session, as approved by the Governing Council at its ninth session, 2/ was distributed on 28 September 1981 (UNEP/GC.10/1)

5. Owing to the fact that the tenth session of the Council will follow immediately after the session of a special character, the Executive Director recommends that there should be no general debate in plenary but rather the Council should go directly into consideration of provisional agenda items 4 (Executive Director's report and state of the environment) and 5 (Co-ordination questions) together.

6. Also in keeping with the established practice, the Governing Council may wish to establish, under rule 60 of the rules of procedure, two sessional committees. Sessional Committee I would deal principally with provisional agenda item 6 (Programme matters). The Executive Director proposes that, in line with a recommendation made at the inter-sessional informal consultations with Governments in January 1979 to the effect that some additional items or sub-items could be allocated to the committees, the Council consider also assigning to Committee I item 7 (Co-ordination and follow-up of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification), which the Committee may wish to consider when it reviews the section on ecosystems in the programme performance document.

7. Sessional Committee II would be concerned, as in the past, with the Environment Fund (item 8), comprising sub-items 8 (a) (Implementation of the Fund programme in 1981), 8 (b) (Management of the Environment Fund), 8 (c) (Financial report and accounts /unaudited/ for the biennium 1980-1981 ended 31 December 1981), and 8 (d) (Project and programme evaluation). Committee II would also deal with provisional agenda item 9 (Administrative and budgetary matters).

2/ See Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its ninth session, Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25,pp. 144-145).

8. The organization of work of the tenth session, as proposed by the Executive Director, is contained in annex I to the present document. In preparing his proposals, the Executive Director has taken into account Governing Council decision 7/1 of 3 May 1979, section III, paragraphs 3 and 4, bearing in mind that the tenth session will have only nine working days in which to complete its work.

Item 3

Credentials of representatives

9. In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives at the tenth session of the Governing Council will be examined by the Bureau, which will report thereon to the Council. It should be noted that, under rule 16, each member of the Council is to be represented by one accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Item 4

Executive Director's report and state of the environment

(a) Introductory report of the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.10/2 and Adds. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7*

10. In his introductory report, the Executive Director surveys major developments since the last session of the Governing Council, and reports on the implementation and follow-up by the secretariat of a number of the decisions adopted by the Governing Council at its last session. In Addendum 1 to his introductory report, the Executive Director reports on the resolutions and decisions of relevance to UNEP adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session and by the Economic and Social Council in 1981. In Addendum 2, the Executive Director submits his report on the regional presence of UNEP, a subject that the Council, by decision 9/3, Section V, paragraph 3, decided to take it up at its 10th session. Addendum 3 contains the Executive Director's report to the Council on the periodicity and duration of Governing Council sessions, a question that the Council, by decision 7/1, section III, paragraph 1, decided to re-examine in 1982. Addendum 4 contains the Executive Director's report to the Council on UNEP's relationship with non-governmental organizations during the 10 years since Stockholm. In Addendum 5, the Executive Director, in compliance with Council decision 9/3, section III, paragraph 3, presents various options for the preparation of a perspective document. In Addendum 6, the Executive Director presents his report on the impacts of apartheid on the environment, in compliance with Council decision 9/9, paragraph 4. The Introductory report will be complemented by the introductory statement by the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.10/2/Add.7*).

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*/ Documents marked with an asterisk may not be submitted in time to comply with the six-weeks rule.

(b) State of the environment report (UNEP/GC.10/3)

11. This year, the Executive Director is submitting to the Council, in a summarised version, the highlights of the main findings (positive and negative changes that have occurred in the world environment) of the major technical study undertaken by UNEP on the changes that have taken place on the world environment during the decade following the Stockholm Conference. The study itself has been published by a commercial publisher. In addition, a popular version, based on the study, has been prepared and published by a commercial publisher for circulation to the general public.

Item 5

Co-ordination questions (UNEP/GC.10/4 and Adds. 1 and 2)

12. The general introduction to the subject of co-ordination is contained in document UNEP/GC.10/4. Addendum 1 contains the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) to the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 32/172 of 19 December 1977. In Addendum 2 the Executive Director presents his report on the joint meeting of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the bureau of the Commission on Human Settlements with the Executive Director of UNEP and the bureau of its Governing Council: under this item, the Executive Director of the Centre will address the Governing Council. In addition, this addendum contains the review of staff and budgetary resources in connexion with the preparation and services of the joint bureau meetings, as called for in Council decision 9/3, section IV, paragraph 2.

Item 6

Programme matters (UNEP/GC.10/5 and Adds. 1, 2, 3 and 4*; UNEP/GC.10/6 and Add. 1; UNEP/GC.10/7; UNEP/GC/10/8; UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/1/Rev. 2/Supplement 3; UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/5/Supplement 5)

13. Under this agenda item the Executive Director will present his report on programme performance (UNEP/GC.10/5) with an addendum containing an up-dated report on developments from 1 January to 31 March 1982 (UNEP/GC.10/5/Add.4*). The programme performance report reviews progress and developments in the field of the environment, principally within the United Nations system, subsequent to the ninth session of the Council and describes the implementation and follow-up of those decisions related to programme matters adopted by the Council at its earlier sessions.

14. In Addendum 1 to the programme performance report, the Council will have before it the report of the Executive Director on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment. Associated with this report will be a further supplement (UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/5/ Supplement 5) to the compendium of such conventions and protocols submitted to the Council at its fifth session in document UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/5 and Corr. 1. These reports represent the Executive Director's response to General Assembly resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 and Governing Council decision 24 (III) of 30 April 1975 in which the Assembly and the Council requested, inter alia, to be kept informed annually of progress made in securing adherence to agreements concerning the environment.

15. Addendum 2 to the programme performance report contains the report of the Ad-Hoc Meeting of Senior Governments Officials Experts in Environmental Law, held at Montevideo from 28 October to 6 November 1981. This report is presented to the Council in compliance with Governing Council decision 9/19 (a), paragraph 3.

16. In Addendum 3, the Executive Director is submitting a list of dangerous chemical substances, as called for by the Council in its decision 9/6.

17. Document UNEP/GC.10/6 contains the Executive Director's report on the review of the major achievements in the implementation of the Stockholm Plan of Action. As an addendum to that document, the Council will have before it a report on the evaluation of the implementation of UNEP's 1982 goals.

18. The Executive Director, in document UNEP/GC.10/7, is submitting to the Council the system-wide medium term environment programme, as called for in Council decision 9/10 B, paragraph 1. In this context, it should be recalled that, in the same decision, the Governing Council at its 9th session approved, "on a provisional basis, the structure and objectives of the system-wide medium term environment programme".

19. In document UNEP/GC.10/8, the Executive Director is submitting a progress report on co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States, as called for in Council decision 9/19 B. This report, should it be adopted by the Council, will form the basis for a report by the Council to the General Assembly at its 36th session, as called for in General Assembly resolution 34/186 of 18 December 1979.

20. Document UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/1/Rev. 2/Supplement 3 provides an updating to the compendium of objectives and strategies as approved by the Council at its earlier sessions. It is being distributed for information purposes only.

Item 7

Co-ordination and follow-up on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (UNEP/GC.10/9)

21. In document UNEP/GC.10/9, the Executive Director presents his report on the co-ordination and follow-up of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, describing the action taken and the progress achieved towards the implementation of the Plan of Action. The report is divided into two parts: the first relates to the general co-ordination and follow-up of the implementation of the Plan since the 35th session of the General Assembly; the second deals with progress in the implementation of the Plan in the Sudano Sahelian region since the last session of the Council. The report is intended to form the basis for the Council's reports to the General Assembly at its 37th session, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/88 of 15 December 1978, 34/187 of 18 December 1979, 35/72 of 5 December 1980, and 36/190 of December 1981.

Item 8

Environment Fund

(a) Implementation of the Fund Programme in 1981 (UNEP/GC.10/10 and Adds. 1, 2 and 3*)

22. The report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the Fund programme in 1981 deals with the resources available and their utilization in 1981. It covers the apportionment of the Fund in 1981, its allocation by budget lines, and the trend of commitments over the period 1973-1981, including commitments approved in 1981 for the years 1981-1985. It further provides a breakdown of commitments in terms of the institutions responsible for the implementation of Fund programme activities, and describes the geographical distribution of commitments in 1981 as compared with those of previous years. The report also provides information on the use of the Fund programme reserve. The list of Fund projects approved during 1981 will appear in Report to Governments No. 35 and a list of on-going national and sub-regional projects in 1981 will appear in Report to Governments No. 36.

23. In Addendum 1 to the document on the implementation of the Fund Programme, the Executive Director, in compliance with Council decision 9/23, paragraph 9, reports on the impact of non-convertible currencies balances on Fund project selection and implementation including any undue influence on the level of the balances of non-convertible currencies in the Fund.

24. In Addendum 2 to the document the Executive Director reports on the implementation and administration of trust funds and other funds for which UNEP is responsible, including the Revolving Fund (Information).

25. Addendum 3 to the report on implementation of the Fund programme provides information on the implementation of the Fund programme in 1981 in the light of the financial report and accounts (unaudited) for the biennium 1980-1981, as at 31 December 1981.

(b) Management of the Fund of UNEP (UNEP/GC.10/11 and Adds. 1 and 2*)

26. The Executive Director's report on the Management of the Environment Fund, document UNEP/GC.10/11), contains his estimates of the level of the programme in 1982-1983 that might be possible in the light of his estimate of resources available, and sets out alternative options for the programme for 1984 and 1985.

27. In Addendum 1 to the report, the Executive Director submits his report on additional resources for serious environmental problems in developing countries, in accordance with Council decision 9/24.

28. In Addendum 2, the Executive Director will report on the status of the Fund as at 31 March 1982.

(c) Financial reports and accounts (unaudited) for the biennium 1980-1981 ended 31 December 1981 (UNEP/GC.10/L.1*)

29. The financial report and unaudited accounts for the biennium 1980-1981, ended 31 December 1981, will be presented to the Council for information in document UNEP/GC.10/L.1*.

(d) Project and programme evaluation (UNEP/GC.10/11)

30. The Council, by paragraph 6 of decision 96 (V) of 24 May 1977, requested the Executive Director to report regularly, at each session, on the progress of project and programme evaluation. The Executive Director's report is submitted in compliance with that decision.

Item 9

Administrative and budgetary questions (UNEP/GC.10/INF/1)

31. The Council will have before it, for its information, in document UNEP/GC.10/INF/1, a progress report on the United Nations accommodation at Nairobi.

Item 10

Provisional agenda, date and place of the eleventh session of the Governing Council

32. Rule 4 of the rules of procedure provides that regular sessions of the Governing Council shall be held at UNEP headquarters, unless otherwise decided by the Council at a previous session.

33. The Executive Director will propose a provisional agenda and dates for the eleventh session of the Council. The Council will also need to decide on the date and place of the inter-sessional informal consultations with Governments.

Item 11

Other Business

34. No subjects having been proposed under this item, no documentation is foreseen.

Item 12

Report of the Governing Council to the General Assembly

35. Section 1, paragraph 3, of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 provides that the Governing Council shall report annually to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

36. The report of the Council on the work of its tenth session will be considered by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1982.

37. It is suggested that the Council's report should be succinct and action-oriented, omitting unnecessary background material and annexes.

Annex 1

TENTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF UNEP
(Nairobi, 20 May-2 June 1982)

PRELIMINARY TIME-TABLE OF MEETINGS

DATES	PLENARY		SESSIONAL COMMITTEE I		SESSIONAL COMMITTEE II	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
	ITEMS		ITEMS		ITEMS	
Wednesday, 19 May		Informal meeting of heads of delegations				
Thursday, 20 May	1, 2 (a), 2 (b), 4, 5	4, 5		6		
Friday, 21 May	4, 5	4, 5	6	6 a/		
Monday, 24 May	4, 5	4, 5	6 a/	6		
Tuesday, 25 May	4, 5		6	6		8
Wednesday, 26 May			6	6	8	8
Thursday, 27 May			6	6	8	8
Friday, 28 May			6	6	8, 9	8, 9
Monday, 31 May	3, 10, 11, 12	12				
Wednesday, 2 June	12	12, 13				
	11 meetings		13 meetings		7 meetings	

a/ To include, at an appropriate moment, item 7.

Annex II (b)

GEOGRAPHICAL COMPOSITION OF UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL BUREAUX

	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
AFRICAN GROUP	RAP	PRES	VP(I)	VP(II)	VP	RAP	PRES	VP(I)	VP	VP
ASIAN GROUP	VP	VP(II)	PRES	VP(I)	RAP	VP(I)	VP(II)	PRES	VP(I)	RAP
EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP (EEG)	VP	RAP	VP	VP	PRES	VP	RAP	VP	VP(II)	PRES
LATIN AMERICAN	VP	VP	RAP	PRES	VP(I)	VP(II)	VP(I)	RAP	PRES	VP
ESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP (WEOG)	PRES	VP(I)	VP(II)	RAP	VP(II)	PRES	VP	VP(II)	RAP	VP

NOTE: The figures (I) and (II) denote the chairmen of sessional committees I and II.

PRES - PRESIDENT

VP - VICE-PRESIDENT

RAP - RAPPORTEUR